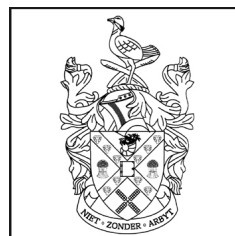


New Expenditure Proposals for the Medium Term Financial Strategy



South
Cambridgeshire
District Council

1. Service: Environmental Health – Home Improvement Agency

2. Submitted by: Dale Robinson

3. Brief Description of the proposal: Disabled Facilities Grants

To provide Capital money to meet the high level of demand for Statutory Disabled Facilities Grants expected to continue into 2005/06 as a result of the reduction in waiting times achieved by the Occupational Therapy service. Cabinet considered this matter in September and October of 2004 and further details are contained within the reports. (Governmental assistance may be forthcoming at 60% of the above expenditure although this is dependant on Go –East agreeing to the totality of our bid and therefore worst case scenario has been applied)

4. Costs (£000s)

Detail	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/8
Disabled facilities Grants	284 (c)	£100 (c)		
Total Costs:	284 (c)	£100 (c)		

5. Reason for bid:

Inescapable

Related to one or more of the three priorities

6. Policy Justification: See Reports to Cabinet 9th September and 14th October 2004.

7. Benefit for service users/public:

Disabled adaptations are often needed to allow people to remain in their own homes, (rather than requiring specialist accommodation that might be the responsibility of the County Council's Social Services), or to return home after a stay in hospital thereby providing a more sustainable solution.

8. Impact on Performance Indicators:

Performance Indicator		Estimated performance in 2004/2005	Estimated improved performance in 2005/2006
#	Description		
	N/a		

9. Implications if not approved:

Under the Housing Grants, Construction and Regeneration Act 1996 SCDC, as a local housing authority, is under a statutory duty to provide grant aid to disabled people for a range of adaptations to their homes. The obligation to provide disabled facility grants (DFG's) to eligible applicants for eligible work (subject to a test of applicants resources) is primary and absolute. Legal have confirmed that we must carryout our statutory duty. This means that spending on mandatory DFG's can at best only be delayed.